

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SS-15
SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 HA-05 /074 R

DRAFTED BY L/PM: JHSMITH:RR
APPROVED BY L: LRMARKS
EUR/SOV M LEVITSKY
-----129674 200155Z /73

P 200055Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 156040

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CU, GW, UR, CASC

SUBJECT: PRISONER EXCHANGE - SHCHARANSKIY

SATURDAY'S WASHINGTON POST (JUNE 17) INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING
ARTICLE WHICH CITES NEWSDAY AS THE SOURCE. WE UNDERSTAND
IT RESULTED FROM INTERVIEW KALMANOWITCH GAVE TO NEWSDAY
PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK LAST WEEK.
BEGIN TEXT:

"EAST GERMAN ATTORNEY WOLFGANG VOGEL HAS SUGGESTED A
POSSIBLE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS INVOLVING THE RUSSIAN-JEWISH DIS-
SIDENT ANATOLY SHCHARANSKIY FOR TWO RUSSIANS ARRESTED LAST
MONTH AS SPIES, IT WAS LEARNED THIS WEEK.

VOGEL'S OFFER REPORTEDLY WAS PASSED ON TO REP. BENJAMIN
GILMAN (D-NY) ON SUNDAY NIGHT AT A MEETING AT THE HOME OF
RABBI RONNIE GREENWALD IN MONSEY, N.Y.
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GREENWALD MET WITH VOGEL IN EAST GERMANY LAST WEEK, TOGETHER
WITH SHANTAI KALMANOWITCH, AN ISRAELI, AS PART OF ONGOING
NEGOTIATIONS THAT INVOLVED THE EXCHANGE OF THREE PRISONERS HE
IN MOZAMBIQUE, EAST GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES.

KALMANOWITCH AND GILMAN WERE UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT ABOUT

THE MEETING, AND GREENWALD DECLINED TO COMMENT.

SHCHARANSKIY, A MAJOR FIGURE IN THE GROUP OF DISSIDENTS CRITICIZING SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH THE HELSINKI HUMAN RIGHTS ACCORD WAS ARRESTED LAST YEAR AND HELD IN-COMMUNICADO, CHARGED WITH BEING A U.S. SPY.

THE TWO RUSSIANS, VALDIK ENGER AND RUDOLPH CHERNAYEV, WERE ARRESTED MAY 20 FOR PASSING U.S. NAVY SECRETS TO THE RUSSIANS. THEY ARE BEING HELD FOR PROSECUTION.

WHETHER THE UNITED STATES WOULD AGREE TO SUCH AN EXCHANGE APPEARED QUESTIONABLE. AN ADMINISTRATION SOURCE POINTED OUT THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD GONE ON RECORD AS DENYING CATEGORICALLY THAT SHCHARANSKIY WAS A CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SPY. SHCHARANSKIY'S CHIEF ACCUSER IS HIS FORMER ROOMMATE, SANYA LIPAVSKY, A JEWISH DOCTOR, WHO HAS ACCUSED SHCHARANSKIY OF BEING A CIA AGENT, THE SOURCE POINTED OUT.

LIPAVSKY, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT NOW ACKNOWLEDGES, WORKED FOR THE CIA AS A "WALK-IN" WHO PRESENTED HIMSELF AND VOLUNTEERED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE AGENCY.

"THE U.S. MUST BE EXTRA-CAREFUL TO AVOID GIVING ANY SIGNAL THAT SHCHARANSKIY IS, IN FACT, A SPY," THE UNCLASSIFIED

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SOURCE SAID. TRADING SHCHARANSKIY FOR TWO ACCUSED RUSSIAN SPIES THE SOURCE SAID MIGHT APPEAR TO GIVE CREDENCE TO RUSSIA'S CHARGE THAT SHCHARANSKIY WAS A SPY" END TEXT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE156040
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JHSMITH:RR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780255-1094
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780639/aaaabhzo.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 44994685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2278663
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRISONER EXCHANGE - SHCHARANSKIY SATURDAY'S WASHINGTON POST (JUNE 17) INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WHICH CITES NEWSDAY AS THE SOURCE. WE UNDERS
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To: BONN MOSCOW MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/44994685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014